



Don't Miss Your Baby's 4th DTaP Immunization

Babies need five DTaP immunizations to be fully protected against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis. The 4th dose, given between 15 and 18 months, is the one most often missed.

*Your baby should have
a total of five DTaP
immunizations, one at
each of these ages:*

- 2 months
- 4 months
- 6 months
- **15 - 18 months**
- 4 - 6 years

Pertussis (whooping cough) is on the rise in Washington. In 2003 there were 844 reported cases, many in young children.

Often, infants who get pertussis have to be hospitalized. It causes coughing that makes it hard for a child to eat, drink, or breathe. It can cause pneumonia, seizures, brain damage, and even death.

Pertussis is easily spread by coughing or sneezing. Babies usually get pertussis from an adult or older child who is infected but who may seem to only have a mild cough.

**Call your health care provider today
to schedule your baby's
15 -18 month DTaP immunization.**

The DTaP vaccine also protects your baby from diphtheria and tetanus.

Diphtheria is a disease of the nose, throat, lungs and skin. It is spread by coughing and sneezing. It can cause breathing and heart problems and even death.

Tetanus (lockjaw) can occur when a tetanus germ enters a deep cut or puncture wound. It can cause muscle spasms, breathing problems and death.

Keep your baby's immunizations up-to-date.

If you know your baby's immunizations are not up-to-date, schedule an appointment now to catch up. If you're not sure, call your health care provider and ask if your baby has had all the immunizations he or she needs.

Find out more.

To find out more about DTaP and other immunizations, visit the Department of Health website: www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/immunize

For help finding an immunization clinic, call Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies at 1-800-322-2588.



This publication is available in other formats.
Call 1-800-525-0127 or TTY relay 711.